

3-28-1858

Lengthy letter from Anna Clemson to Floride Clemson, 1858 March 28

Anna Marie Calhoun Clemson

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The Home March 28th
1858

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~~626~~

My dearest daughter,

I am somewhat anxious about the bad cold your aunt mentions you had. Did you take the Hives Syrup & Paregoric, as I told you to, whenever you had a cough? I hope this fine weather has enabled you to get rid of it. I always feel worried when I hear you have a bad cough it is so racking to the constitution. You must write me exactly how you are, in your next. You have said nothing to me of having a cold, tho your aunt says you have had it three weeks. I don't like this; If I think you conceal anything from me your letters will cease to satisfy me. You must always tell me every thing, pleasant or unpleasant, about yourself. I should be much more worried, if I thought you could be sick, & conceal it

thru' a mistaken desire to spare me
from uneasiness, than I ever could
be if I knew you always told me
when you were not well. I am
glad to find, by your uncle Baker's
last letter, your aunt has at last
consented to employ an Allopathic
physician. I hope she will now
indeed soon be well, for I have
all along been anxious for her
with the do nothing system of the
Homoeopaths. There is a case I should
think which required more active
treatment.

I am truly pleased at the good
accounts I hear of you & regret I
cannot go on in May to see you
to advantage as your aunt says.
It would be delightful to see
you & ~~to~~ doubtless enjoy the
visit - but there are several reasons
which prevent it, so I must try &
content myself till you come home
in the summer.

Your
father wrote Calhoun he could
come home, at the Easter holiday,
when it seems your uncle B.
gives ten days, & as we supposed
the holidays began tomorrow,

2. They had quite an invalid family.
C626
We are all well, & as busy as bees
both within doors & without. The
trees are all budding, & the apri-
cots in full bloom. Even your
father is out all day, & quite inter-
ested about making the place look
nicely. He has bought the lumber &
engaged the workmen for the
piazza, in front of the house, & will
commence it immediately. It
will be 37 feet long, & 12 broad.
Will that not be an improvement.
I am going to take the two bins
on the old porch, & plant them to
cedar posts — one just at the
end of the new piazza. That we
may see the humming birds, which
frequent them, & which I should
be loth to part with — Your father
is also having a carriage built.
The body is nearly finished & he
told me he saw it yesterday & was
much pleased with it. He could
not find one ready made, that
gave room enough for his legs &
arms. — He is not coming out?
I still continue quite a gad about
I have been to the city twice this week

once with Anna without Babette,
she behaved so well, & gave me no
trouble. I bought her a pretty little
flat — one of those coloured English
ones, trimmed with green ribbon, in
which she looks very pretty, & of
which she is very proud. — When I
told her that her brother was coming
soon, she said, "I sister too? I want
to be my sister too." She has a
high idea of your beauty, for all
the pictures of pretty ladies, she sees,
she says are "sister Florida." She is
growing quite pretty & looks very
healthy. We had her weighed
at Jackson's the other day — she
weighed 31 pounds, but I shant
tell you how much I weighed,
for I am fairly ashamed to be
such a monster. Babette weighed
113 pounds, which was more than I
thought, but as she says "bones weigh
heavy." — I have nothing to say
worth beginning another page so
good bye darling — I hope you are
well by this time. Give my love to
your aunt Kate & all of the family
always including Miss Letty. I hope
Kate got my letter & you received the
money safely. Your ever devoted
mother
Anna C. Clemson

(Monday) we looked somewhat for ^{last night} him, supposing he would like to gain a day in that way, but I take it the holidays do not begin as soon as we thought. We are very anxious to see him, & only wish you were also coming. I shall not write him to-day, as he must be here in a few days.

I hear Lieut Maynard, ("California Maynard", who married your aunt M.'s sister you know) is going to send a son to your uncle B. I wonder if it is that ugly Botby. Do you remember him? Your father met Lieut Maynard the other day, who said he was looking for a place to send his son, when your father of course suggested your uncle. By the way tell your aunt B. I went to see Mrs Thompson, (wife of the Secretary of the Interior), & in the course of conversation mentioned you were with her. She ~~at once~~ immediately said she knew her, & had become acquainted with her through going to see your aunt Cornelia, when she was staying with your aunt B. & without my saying a word told me she would do all in her

power to aid her. As they are I believe from the South West, I believe tell your aunt I hope this will "open to her" that region as she has already secured the north west & send her some of those wealthy planters daughters, who want to learn every thing, & can pay for all they learn. I shall send Mrs Thompson some of her circulars, to keep her in mind of the matter.

I had a letter a few days since from your grandmother. She said she had given up the idea of coming on so soon, before your uncle P. arrived, as every one told her there would be risk in coming before April, & that it was well she had, as your uncle P. was sick in bed, & the doctor said his lungs were affected, & he must not think of coming north before sometime in April, when she says I may expect them. I think it is very well they should delay till then, as it will be better for both but I hope the next accounts from your uncle P. will be better. She said your uncle Willie, your aunt Kate, & one of the children were sick &